

In the claims:

Please cancel original claim 1 and replace it with new claim 8 as shown below:

- A 24 8. (New) A matrix metalloproteinase inhibitor selected from the group consisting of: (rac)-4-(4'-chloro-biphenyl-4-yl)-4-oxo-2-[2-(4-oxo-4H-benzo[d][1,2,3]triazin-3-yl)ethyl]butyric acid; (-)-4-(4'-chloro-biphenyl-4-yl)-4-oxo-2-[2-(4-oxo-4H-benzo[d][1,2,3]triazin-3-yl)ethyl]butyric acid; (+)-4-(4'-chloro-biphenyl-4-yl)-4-oxo-2-[2-(4-oxo-4H-benzo[d][1,2,3]triazin-3-yl)ethyl]butyric acid; and their pharmaceutically acceptable salts.

Please amend claims 2, 3, and 5 as shown below:

- A 25 2. (Amended) A composition having matrix metalloprotease inhibitory activity, comprising a compound of claim 8 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.
3. (Amended) A method of inhibiting matrix metalloprotease activity in a mammal comprising administration of an effective amount matrix metalloprotease inhibitor compound of claim 8 to said mammal.
4. The method of claim 3 wherein said mammal is a human.
- A 26 5. A method of treating a mammal comprising administering to the mammal a matrix metalloprotease inhibiting amount of a compound according to claim 8 sufficient to:
(a) alleviate the effects of osteoarthritis, rheumatoid arthritis, septic arthritis, periodontal disease, corneal ulceration, proteinuria, aneurysmal aortic disease, dystrophic epidermolysis, bullosa, conditions leading to inflammatory responses, osteopenias mediated by MMP activity, temporo mandibular joint disease, demyelinating diseases of the nervous system;
(b) retard tumor metastasis or degenerative cartilage loss following traumatic

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joint injury;

- (c) reduce coronary thrombosis from athrosclerotic plaque rupture; or
- (d) effect birth control.

6. The method of claim 5 wherein the effect is alleviation of osteoarthritis.

7. The method of claim 5 wherein the effect is retardation of tumor metastasis.

Remarks / Arguments

As a result of this amendment, claims 2 – 8 are pending in the application. Claim 1 has been cancelled and replaced by new claim 8. No new matter has been added.

The above-requested amendments to the specification are made to repair a number of informalities in the application as filed. Through errors and omissions on the part of the law firm which wrote and filed the application, the application as filed contained (a) duplicate sections of text; (b) textual discontinuities; (c) inconsistent definitions of certain superscripts and subscripts; and (d) various obvious clerical errors. It was deemed desirable to correct these informalities to facilitate the ability of readers to understand the text.

It is deemed that the proposed amendments to the specification do not introduce new matter. Rather, the textual deletions are deemed necessary to remove extraneous material and improve legibility of the text.

Comments respecting each of the above-proposed amendments are presented below:

1. The amendment at the bottom of page 11 corrects a textual discontinuity, and is supported by the formula and text on page 11, lines 19-22.